

**DOOR HANDLE INPUT DECOUPLER FOR A
CINCHING LATCH ACTUATOR**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A mechanical clutch assembly is used to selectively disengage a motor from a cinching latch of a closure panel having a handle. The mechanical clutch assembly includes a housing defining a longitudinal axis, an axial opening and a peripheral opening. The mechanical clutch assembly also includes a shaft that extends through
10 the housing and out the axial opening. The shaft extends along the longitudinal axis of the housing. A driven gear is rotatably secured to the shaft and axially positioned by the housing. The driven gear is operatively connected to the motor and is driven thereby. A pinion gear is secured to the shaft and selectively engages the driven gear. The mechanical clutch assembly also includes a clutch extending between the driven
15 gear and the pinion gear allowing the pinion gear to disengage the driven gear allowing the motor to back drive when the liftgate handle is operated manually.